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Governor Schwarzenegger Signs Bill Extending Agreement for Resource Sharing Between States During Disasters

SACRAMENTO – Governor Schwarzenegger recently signed legislation to extend an agreement to allow California to give and receive aid to neighboring states during a catastrophic event.

Assembly Bill 1564, authored by Assembly Member Pedro Nava, modifies the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) to extend the sunset date from March 1, 2007 to March 1, 2012.

"Natural and human-caused disasters remind us of the importance of helping our neighbors across state lines," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "California has one of the best mutual aid systems in the world, and we are well equipped to share our resources with other states in their time of need. In turn, during a disaster, we are assured by this agreement that we can call on our neighboring states for assistance."

EMAC was established in California through AB 823 (Nava and Runner) and adopted into law in 2005. By establishing an organized system for requesting, deploying and tracking resources, the agreement streamlines the process for sharing resources during disasters.

For more information, call OES Office of Public Information at 916-845-8400 or visit www.oes.ca.gov.